

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 07990 121055Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00
SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01 COME-00
EB-08 DOE-11 INT-05 OMB-01 OES-07 STR-07 TRSE-00
ACDA-12 IO-13 SSM-03 /123 W
-----084332 121132Z /15

O 121050Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 6590
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV NIACT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 07990

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ENRG, PBOR, IS, EG, US
SUBJ: AMOCO INCIDENT

REF: CAIRO 7976

1. AMOCO/EGYPT PRESIDENT RUBASH INFORMED US AT 0930 MARCH 12 THAT RIG 511 HAD COMPLETED JOB OF SETTING ANCHORS DURING NIGHT AND THAT DRILLING ACTUALLY BEGAN BEFORE DAWN. ALL OPERATIONS APPARENTLY CARRIED OUT WITHOUT FURTHER CONTACT WITH ISRAELI NAVY, WITH EXCEPTION OF ONE UNCONFIRMED REPORT THAT ONE WORK BOAT WAS APPROACHED IN PROCESS OF SETTING ONE ANCHOR (POSITION UNIDENTIFIED) AND TOLD TO STOP OPERATION; SHIP REPORTEDLY IGNORED ORDER. RUBASH TRYING TO TRACK THIS REPORT DOWN, BUT EMPHASIZED RIG ITSELF HAS HAD NO FURTHER EXCHANGE WITH ISRAELI BOATS. ISRAELI NAVY CRAFT ARE STILL VERY VISIBLE, BUT ARE KEEPING THEIR DISTANCE. THERE IS NO REPEAT NO SIGN OF ANY EGYPTIAN MILITARY ACTIVITY IN THE AREA, ACCORDING TO RUBASH.

2. RUBASH HAD UNDERSTOOD YESTERDAY THAT THERE WOULD BE
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NO ANCHOR MARKER BUOYS ON THE EASTERN ANCHORS. THIS MORNING, HOWEVER, HE HAS CONFLICTING REPORTS FROM RAS SHUKAIR ABOUT THE BUOYS. ONE REPORT CLAIMS THAT ISRAELI GUNBOATS ARE TIED UP TO MARKER BUOYS; ANOTHER SAYS THAT RIG 511 HAS PLACED TWO WORKBOATS AT THE MARKER BUOYS, APPARENTLY TO THWART ANY MOVE TO TRY TO CUT ANCHOR CHAINS. CUTTING CHAINS ONCE DRILLING HAS BEGUN

WOULD SERIOUSLY ENDANGER RIG AND THOSE ON BOARD.

3. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION, RUBASH SAID HE HAD NOT BEEN CONTACTED BY ANY GOE OFFICIAL AND THAT HE DOES NOT HAVE ANY INSTRUCTIONS FROM EITHER MINPET OR EGPC MANAGEMENT REGARDING RIG 511 OPERATIONS. HE SAID COMPANY POLICY IS TO KEEP RIG ON CURRENT LOCATION AND CONTINUE TO DRILL. WHILE STILL WARY OF ISRAELI NAVAL ACTIVITY IN THE AREA, AMOCO BELIEVES THAT AS RESULT DRILLING ACTUALLY STARTED WITHOUT FURTHER CHALLENGE, INCIDENT MAY BE OVER. EILTS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TERRITORIAL WATERS, DISPUTES, EXPLORATORY DRILLING
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780110-0983
Format: TEL
From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780378/aaaacnyk.tel
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Retention: 0
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Review Release Event: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AMOCO INCIDENT
TAGS: ENRG, PBOR, IS, EG, US, AMOCO
To: STATE TEL AVIV
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8b6174c8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
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